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Appl. No. 10/720,172

August 13, 2007

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A universal mandrel system comprising:

a core mandrel having an outside diameter;

a plurality of adapter sleeves each having an inside diameter sized to engage the core mandrel outside diameter across an entire width of the adapter sleeves, the plurality of adapter sleeves comprising varying exterior dimensions and being interchangeably engageable with the core mandrel, wherein only one of the adapter sleeves engages the core mandrel at a time, the one adapter sleeve being selected to accommodate varying size part diameters; and

an interlocking mechanism secured between the core mandrel and the selected one of the adapter sleeves, the interlocking mechanism preventing the selected adapter sleeve from rotating relative to the core mandrel.

2. (Previously Presented) A universal mandrel system according to claim 1, wherein the interlocking mechanism comprises a lug formed on either the outside diameter of the core mandrel or the inside diameter of the adapter sleeve, and a slot formed in the other of the outside diameter of the core mandrel or the inside diameter of the adapter sleeve, the lug engaging the slot when the adapter sleeve is fitted to the core mandrel.

3. (Previously Presented) A universal mandrel system according to claim 2, wherein the lug is formed on the inside diameter of the adapter sleeve, and wherein the slot is formed in the outside diameter of the core mandrel.

4-5. (Canceled)